

ciency programs to their customers through energy efficiency plans. An energy efficiency plan as a whole shall be cost-effective. In determining the cost-effectiveness of an energy efficiency plan, the board shall apply the societal test, utility cost test, rate-payer impact test, and participant test. Energy efficiency programs for qualified low-income persons and for tree planting programs, educational programs, and assessments of consumers' needs for information to make effective choices regarding energy use and energy efficiency need not be cost-effective and shall not be considered in determining cost-effectiveness of plans as a whole. The energy efficiency programs in the plans may be provided by the utility or by a contractor or agent of the utility. Programs offered pursuant to this subsection by gas and electric utilities that are required to be rate-regulated shall require board approval.

Sec. 17. ENERGY EFFICIENCY STUDIES — IOWA UTILITIES BOARD.

1. ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLANS. The Iowa utilities board, in conjunction with other interested parties, shall conduct a study of the energy efficiency plans and programs offered by all gas and electric utilities pursuant to section 476.6 to determine the status and effectiveness of energy efficiency programs in the state, using the most accurate and up-to-date information available to the board during the time period prescribed for the study. The board shall report the results of the study, with recommendations for best practices to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption, to the members of the general assembly by January 1, 2008.

2. FUTURE CONSUMER ENERGY REDUCTION PLAN. The board shall coordinate with the Iowa energy center to conduct a consumer survey and study relating to consumer knowledge of energy use and energy efficiency, and methods for increasing such knowledge, with the objective of reducing consumer energy utilization. The board shall report the results of the study to the members of the general assembly by January 1, 2008.

Sec. 18. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved May 23, 2007

CHAPTER 169

UNIFORM HEALTH INSURANCE APPLICATION FORM FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS

S.F. 346

AN ACT providing for the development of a uniform health insurance application form for use by small employers.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 513B.19 UNIFORM APPLICATION FORM.

The commissioner shall develop, by rule, a uniform application form for use by small employers applying for new health insurance coverage under group health plans offered by small employer carriers. Small employer carriers shall be required to use the uniform application form not less than six months after the rules developing the form become effective under chapter 17A.

Approved May 24, 2007

CHAPTER 170**COMMERCE — BANKING, DEBT MANAGEMENT,
INDUSTRIAL LOANS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING***S.F. 360*

AN ACT relating to the regulatory duties of the division of banking of the department of commerce regarding banking, debt management, mortgage banking, industrial loan companies, and professional licensing.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 524.215A PRESERVATION OF DIVISION OF BANKING RECORDS.

1. The division of banking may preserve records, papers, or documents kept by the division or in the possession or custody of the division by any of the following means:

- a. Photographing or microphotographing, or otherwise reproducing upon film.
- b. Preserving in any electronic medium or format capable of being read or scanned by computer and capable of being reproduced by printing or by any other form of reproduction of electronically stored data.

2. Photographs, microphotographs, or photographic films or copies thereof, or reproductions of electronically stored data, created pursuant to subsection 1 shall be deemed to be an original record for all purposes, including introduction in evidence in all state and federal courts or administrative hearings, and shall be admissible to prove any act, transaction, occurrence, or event therein recorded.

3. Photographs, microphotographs, or photographic films or copies thereof, or reproductions of electronically stored data, created pursuant to subsection 1 shall be preserved in such manner as the division prescribes, and the original photographs, microphotographs, photographic films, copies, and reproductions may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the division directs.

Sec. 2. Section 524.217, subsection 2, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

2. The superintendent may furnish to the federal deposit insurance corporation, the federal reserve system, ~~the office of the comptroller of the currency, the office of thrift supervision, the United States department of the treasury,~~ the national credit union administration, the federal home loan bank, ~~the financial crimes enforcement network of the federal department of the treasury, the United States internal revenue service,~~ and financial institution regulatory authorities of other states, or to any official or supervising examiner of such regulatory authorities, a copy of the report of any or all examinations made of any state bank and of any affiliate of a state bank.

Sec. 3. Section 524.217, Code 2007, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 6. The superintendent may enter into contractual agreements with other state regulators of financial institutions to share examiners or to assist in each state's respective examinations. The division of banking shall be reimbursed for any costs incurred when providing services to other states pursuant to this subsection. Any division of banking personnel assisting another state with its examination shall be covered by the provisions of the other state's tort claims act, to the extent permitted by the laws of the other state. If the law of the other state does not extend coverage to the division of banking personnel working on the other state's examination, the provisions of chapter 669 shall apply.

Sec. 4. Section 533A.10, Code 2007, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, all papers, documents, examination reports and other writings relating to the supervision of licensees are not